

DEBS, UNGUARDED, IN WASHINGTON TO ASK FOR PARDON

Quits Atlanta Prison and Goes Alone by Train to Capital to Visit Attorney General.

HAS THREE HOUR TALK

Utmost Secrecy Is Observed About Reasons For and Details of Trip Made by Political Convict.

REPORTERS ALL BAFFLED

New Precedent in Giving Federal Ticket of Leave to Penitentiary Inmate Is Made by Daugherty.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau, Washington, D. C., March 24. Eugene V. Debs, Socialist candidate for President in 1920, and Federal prisoner at the Atlanta Penitentiary, convicted of violation of the espionage act, left his prison cell and came unescorted to Washington to-day, where he conferred with Attorney-General Daugherty on the features of his case and presented personally reasons why he believes he should be pardoned by the President.

The release of Debs to come to Washington is unprecedented in American criminal annals. His coming was dramatic. Though it had been rumored, nothing definite had been known of the temporary release of Debs on his own recognizance and his conference here until it was announced by Attorney-General Daugherty to a large group of newspaper men this afternoon.

The coup was perfect. News of the moves in the case had been concealed successfully and not a single newspaper had succeeded in confirming the rumors that started yesterday, although Debs had left a Federal prison unescorted.

Immediately after his conference with the Attorney-General Debs left Washington still unescorted to return to his prison cell. He carried with him no pledge or promise except one that his case and appeal would be considered by the Attorney-General and the President.

Previous Plans Turned Down.

A recommendation for the pardon or release of Debs made by Attorney-General Palmer was turned down by President Wilson several months ago.

Attorney-General Daugherty announced that no decision had been reached in the case except that providing for a general review by his department and by the Executive. He told of the action taken in the following official statement:

"In connection with the investigation of the Debs case and after conference with the President and with his approval I had Debs come here for the purpose of making certain facts known. He has returned to Atlanta.

"I have asked him to refrain from saying anything for publication or otherwise regarding the subject of the inquiries made. I am sure no well meaning person will urge him to discuss the matter or anything that took place on his journey or during his stay here.

"Debs presented his own case to the trial court and jury. He was permitted to do so here.

"The Debs case, as I have said before, stands alone. I could not, of course, go to him. What took place and the information I have acquired will be reported in due time to the President, and that in connection with any recommendation which may be made when the investigation is concluded. Debs came here without guard and so returned to Atlanta. Col. Goff, assistant to the Attorney-General, was present during the inquiries."

Debs came to Washington unescorted. He left a Southern Railway train, went direct to the office of the Attorney-General and was ushered right in. This was before noon to-day.

Interview Lasts Three Hours.

Debs did not leave the office until nearly 3 o'clock to catch a 3.30 train. While he was talking with the Attorney-General, newspapermen who persistently had sought information in regard to his release were outside the door and gained no information.

At 3.30 o'clock the Attorney-General had a formal conference with reporters. Former President William H. Taft was present. He had talked with the Attorney-General after the departure of Debs and wanted to greet the newspapermen. He showed keen interest in the interview. Because of his presence the opening was rather perfunctory. After an exchange of greetings the Attorney-General said without promise:

"I have not much to tell you except about the visit of Debs. This situation is not a precedent. The Attorney-General has been buried to telephone to Debs the news that reports of Debs in Washington were true. Others fired a volley of questions. The Attorney-General forestalled all of them with his formal statement, which was immediately passed around.

"It was asked whether the authority for allowing a Federal prisoner, particularly one as notorious as Debs, to leave his cell and come to Washington unescorted.

"The Attorney-General replied: 'I am satisfied there is full authority. I have not looked it up, but I am satisfied that it exists.'"

He was pressed for a precedent and answered: 'Well, there is a precedent. I discussed the matter with the President and am willing to take full responsibility.'

Debs is regarded by his friends and

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CITY WILL BE FREE DOCTOR TO AILING FOLKS OF BOSTON

BOSTON, March 24.—When things go wrong with health in Boston homes hereafter the visit of the family doctor and his fee may be avoided. The city, through its Health Department, stands ready to tell its citizens and their dependents what ails them, Health Commissioner W. C. Woodward announced to-day.

If baby cries without apparent cause, if father has spots before the eyes or mother suffers fainting spells, a line dropped to the new municipal health information bureau will bring in the next mail diagnosis of their ailments, with advice for self-treatment or for recourse to clinics or specialists without cost.

Communications will be confidential. Symptoms should be told in brief detail. Age, sex, occupation and other facts should be given. A self-addressed stamped envelope should be enclosed for reply. These are the only requirements, Commissioner Woodward stated.

Federal and State authorities were consulted about the innovation, he said, adding that while the plan opened the door to the fancies of hypochondriacs, he felt that much genuine benefit would accrue to those with real afflictions. Persons who would not consult a doctor, he thought, would avail themselves of the new plan.

BALLOON SINKING TO SEA WITH CREW \$12,000,000 HEIR VANISHES ON LINER

Messages by Carrier Pigeons Tell of Peril to Missing Craft in Florida.

PLANES AND BOATS SENT LEFT CABIN WRECKED

Naval Officials Express Fears for Safety of Party of Five Making Night Flight.

PENACOLA, March 24.—A naval free balloon, carrying five men, was reported missing to-night by the naval air station here.

The balloon, in command of Chief Quartermaster E. W. Wilkinson, accompanied by a machinist mate and three marines as students, left here Tuesday night.

The last information from the missing aircraft was received early to-day when two carrier pigeons returned with messages. One saying the balloon was off St. Andrews Bay, Florida, drifting toward the open sea. The other, arriving a little later, said all ballast had been thrown overboard and that the balloon was then at an altitude of only 100 feet and slowly sinking.

A naval dirigible and a number of seaplanes and flying boats immediately were sent in search of the missing balloonists, but up to a late hour to-night the searchers had been unable to find either the balloon or any of its crew.

St. Andrews Bay, Florida, expressed fears for the safety of the missing men and ordered the search continued, with an Eagle boat added to the forces.

The men in the balloon when it left here, in addition to Wilkinson, were R. V. Bluff, the balloon's mate, and E. L. Kershaw, J. C. Elder and W. H. Treasay, marine students.

The balloon left the station here at 3 o'clock Tuesday evening for an all night flight. The prevailing winds at the time were southwesterly, and the balloon drifted over western Florida in a northeasterly direction.

Naval officials to-night held out some hope that the balloon might have struck a northerly current of air when it dropped to the 100 foot altitude and thus have been carried over the land. The buoyancy of the balloon would increase as the altitude decreased, it was explained. The pilot may have been able to keep his craft in the air long enough to reach the land.

There are few towns along the coast in the vicinity of St. Andrews Bay and the balloonists may have landed in some remote region from which it would be impossible for them to communicate with the naval air station. The entire coast is protected by a barren outer reef varying in width from a few yards to several miles, and if the balloonists reached this reef they may have landed and would then be forced to wait, perhaps forty or fifty miles before reaching a pass through which boats enter and leave the inner waterway. In this case the balloonists would be unable to make their presence known unless they were able to construct a raft of driftwood or fallen trees.

The eagle boats and sub chasers are searching all the coast at this time. In the morning the aircraft from the station here will renew their search, paying particular attention to the reefs. All merchant vessels in the Gulf have been asked by wireless to aid in the search.

Chief Wilkinson is both a free balloon and a dirigible pilot and served with distinction in France during the world war. He has been an instructor in the lighter than air division at the naval air station here since he returned from overseas and is rated as one of the most competent men at the station. He is serving his second enlistment and is unmarried. The other four men are on their first enlistments.

FIRE RUINS PRINCETON TOWER CLUB'S HOME

Injured Fireman Rescued by Keck, Football Star.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

PRINCETON, March 25.—Fire last night shortly before midnight, starting from the walls of the tower of the Princeton Tower Club, one of the elite student clubs in the city and a show place of Prospect street, virtually destroyed the structure, causing damage estimated at about \$50,000. At 2 o'clock this morning the firemen had brought the blaze under control, but only the walls of the building were left standing. One of the rooms burned was the War Memorial Room, recently fitted up in honor of the Tower Club men who were killed in the war.

Fireman Earl Redmiller of Fire Company No. 1 was overcome by smoke while handling a line of hose on the landing of the first floor and fell down stairs. With two other students, Stanley Keck, captain of the Princeton football team and an all-American tackle last year, ran into the burning building and dragged Redmiller to the street.

A pulmotor was obtained from a hospital and the fireman was revived.

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U.S. IS IN NO HASTE TO DECIDE POLICY ON RUSSIAN TRADE

Harding Will Consider the Problem From All Angles Before Acting.

ENVOYS NOT BARRED

Commerce Pact Must Avoid Possibility of Any Political Recognition.

President and Senate Agree on Need for End of Communism—Soviet Gold Untouched.

BRITAIN DICKERING FOR SOVIET PEACE

Harmsworth Tells Commons Beneficial Trade Agreement Is Secondary Purpose.

RUSSIAN GOLD IN COURT

Possible Seizure for Old Debts and Practical Recognition of Government Are Issues.

LONDON, March 24.—Cecil Harmsworth, speaking in behalf of the Government in the House of Commons to-day in reply to a question, said he hoped that from the Russian trade agreement would emerge a peace treaty without very prolonged delay.

This statement, confirming similar intimations from the Prime Minister himself, crystallizes the real importance of the agreement, rather than any immediate prospect of beneficial commercial transactions resulting from the agreement.

As was explained by Leonid Krassin, the Russian representative, immediately the agreement was signed, no trading with the legal advisers of the Government is that the courts will hold the signing of the agreement as tantamount to recognition of the de facto Government, in which case the judgments will likely be in Russia's favor.

M. Krassin in an interview given to the press to-day again warned against expecting a large volume of trade and reiterated the nothing was possible until the test cases were decided.

"We are in a position to export a certain amount of timber, flax, furs, leather goods, iron ore, manganese ore, grain, eggs and other commodities, but not in large quantities, as our cargoes have been gone in a series of wars. But if peace is left in peace for a few years we shall not only return to our pre-war volume of production, but be in position to supply the whole of Europe with grain, butter, eggs, meat and other commodities."

In concluding M. Krassin declared: "Russia is full of good will. The Soviet Government is ready to make a deal. The Soviet Government is ready to make a deal. The Soviet Government is ready to make a deal."

SOVIET REJECTS CZAR'S DEBTS IN FRANCE

Would Resume Relations, but Not at Such Price.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

PARIS, March 24.—Russia would like to resume trade relations with France, but not at the price of recognizing the old Russian debt to France. That is the declaration of M. Vorovsky, head of the Russian trade mission just arrived in Rome, who made a statement to the correspondent of the New York Herald.

Russia now has trade commissions in Germany, England, Austria, Italy, Slovakia, Estonia, Lithuania, Finland, Sweden, and according to M. Vorovsky, will soon establish one in Poland.

"Regarding France," says M. Vorovsky, "our position remains the same. Why should we recognize the debt of the Government? We have overthrown it. We shall ignore it, and yet France wants us to ask our people to bear the burden of loans they have never approved."

In Italy the Russians are negotiating principally for agricultural machinery, seeds and clothing, against which they promise to deliver grain from Russia. He intimated that the Soviets stood ready to offer the same terms to France.

French officials still insist that nothing has occurred as yet to warrant a change in France's policy, but it is significant that French hopes now, instead of being based on new military supplies, are based on the possibility of securing a commercial arrangement without in effect extending de facto political relations.

NO NEED FOR HASTY ACTION.

In approaching the Russian problem the Administration is acting with a realization of the big outstanding debt that the Russian revolution and its results are the most portentous developments of the war.

FAIR EASTER SUNDAY, IS WASHINGTON PROMISE

Message of Hope Is Sent Out by Weather Bureau.

WASHINGTON, March 24.—The Weather Bureau to-night sent a message of hope and of cheer to the women of the United States. The message said:

"For Easter Sunday the outlook is for generally fair weather with moderate temperature over much of the country."

White Sulphur Springs, the Greenbrier, Golf courses in best summer condition.—Ads.

GERMAN TRADERS UNITE ON BOYCOTT TO PUNISH ALLIES

300,000 Merchants Agree to Halt Commerce With 3 Chief Powers.

ITALY IS NOT INCLUDED

Central Organization Now Urging Ban on Britain, France and Belgium.

WILL TURN TO AMERICA

Trade Preferences to Be Given to U. S., Italy and Various Neutral Countries.

COMMUNIST COUP FAST DWINDLING

Extremists Still Control Elsieben and Mansfeld, but Hamburg Quiet.

PROVES FIASCO IN BERLIN

Explosions in Dresden and Leipzig Related to Victory Column Attempt.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

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New York Herald Bureau, Berlin, March 24.

Communists are still in control of Elsieben and Mansfeld, but quiet has been restored in Hamburg.

The so-called Communist coup d'etat, while regarded as serious, has not taken on alarming proportions. Attempts to induce workers in the factories of the General Electric Company and of Ludwig & Loewe in Berlin to join in a sympathetic strike proved unproductive of results to-day.

A man believed to be the notorious Communist Hodel was caught after holding up three banks in the neighborhood of Elsieben.

The Communists in the streets of Dresden, Leipzig and Hamburg are not connected with the attempt to blow up the Column of Victory in Berlin ten days ago. Members of the Communist Workers' party, a faction which is more extreme than the United Communist party, who are now under arrest, are reported to have confessed that they plotted to blow up the Column of Victory, and that when they failed in this they intended to blow up a large number of public buildings in Berlin on Good Friday.

30 KILLED, 28 WOUNDED IN RIOTING AT HAMBURG

Order Restored and Communists Ejected From Yards.

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

HAMBURG, March 24.—Not less than thirty persons were killed in the rioting here yesterday. Thus far twenty-eight are known to be seriously wounded. Order has been restored in Hamburg and the Communists have been ejected from the shipyards which they had occupied.

The mob attempted to break the police cordon about the Vulkan Shipyard and to disarm the police. The police ordered the crowd to disperse and when this order was ignored the officers opened fire and threw hand grenades into the mob.

The Communist revolt in the middle German industrial area is believed to be receding, although minor outbreaks are reported in new sections. The situation is critical at Elsieben, where the Reds up to noon were in unchallenged control of the city.

Detachments of security police are due there before night. They are being hurried from Magdeburg and elsewhere to effect a junction with the local forces, who are now being sent to a schoolhouse, under the fire of the Communists. Elsieben is virtually cut off from rail communication with Halle and other points, as the rails have been removed along parts of the road.

Youthful rioters are looting the shops in Elsieben, Mansfeld and other nearby points. The Communists are not getting the support of organized labor, and it is believed that the outbreak, on this account, will be short-lived.

The disposition of annex 2, paragraph 12, concerning the issue of new bonds, in no way modifies the absolute obligation taken by Germany to pay the 20,000,000,000 marks under Article 235. In any event, the total amount of 25,000,000,000 marks under Article 235 must be paid before May 1. The text is imperative, and non-fulfillment of this article, as in any other failure of Germany to fulfill her obligations, would entail penalties.

GERMAN LABOR UNIONS DENOUNCE REDS' MOVE

Communist Schemes Condemned by Socialist Papers.

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

BERLIN, March 24.—Both the *Vorwaerts* and the *Freiheit* are outspoken in their condemnation of Communist outbreaks at Hamburg and in middle Germany, and warn the workers against permitting themselves to be provoked into lawlessness.

The *Freiheit* designates the eruption as the work of a "rag-tag and bobtail proletariat" summoned into the streets by the Communist leaders, and declares: "Bombs, outrages, the destruction of property, the looting of shops, the burning of houses and the robbing of savings banks have nothing to do with politics."

It charges the German Communist party management with having "given

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WEEK END of March 25-26.—Further proof that World War I was not a vacuum caused by heat.

GERMANY IS TOLD TO PAY OR FACE HEAVY PENALTIES

Stern Demand Made by Allies for Twenty Billion Marks Gold Before the First of May.

WILL NOT TAKE BONDS

Berlin's Claim That Part Payment Can Be Made With Its Securities Is Repudiated.

MARCH 23 DEFAULT NOTED

Paris Denies Report of Contemplated Seizure of Frankfurt—Ambassadors' Meeting Is Postponed.

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

PARIS, March 24.—The Reparations Commission officially notified the allied Governments of Germany's refusal to pay the billion marks due yesterday. The commission made no suggestion concerning measures which the Governments should take to coerce Germany into paying.

The commission also notified the German Government that the total amount of 20,000,000,000 gold marks due under Article 235 of the peace treaty must be paid by May 1 or additional penalties will be inflicted upon Germany.

Emphatic denial is made by the Foreign Office of a Berlin report that the French contemplate the immediate occupation of Frankfurt. It is pointed out that no such move has even been considered.

Reply to German Note.

The text of the commission's note, which is in reply to the German note of March 22 and is addressed "to the President of the *Kriegslosungskommission* (War Burdens Commission), follows:

"Replying to your letter, the Reparations Commission has the honor to inform you:

"Firstly, according to the Treaty of Versailles, the Reparations Commission alone has the right to place a valuation upon the deliveries made by Germany."

"Secondly, the Reparations Commission by the same treaty is authorized to decide which, among the deliveries made up to date, may be deducted from the 20,000,000,000 gold marks referred to in Article 235."

"Thirdly, neither paragraph 9 nor 10, annex 2, part 8, concerns an eventual hearing of the German Government concerning Germany's capacity for payment."

There is nothing in the Treaty of Versailles which obliges the commission to bear the German Government upon the conditions under which deliveries to make up the 20,000,000,000 marks mentioned in Article 235 should be made or appraised.

The commission has waited as long as possible, thinking the German Government would take the necessary measures faithfully to fulfill its obligations under Article 235. It now is persuaded such is not the case. The commission demanded payment of 1,000,000,000 gold marks because of the certainty that Germany possessed sufficient funds to make immediate payment.

"Anxious to exempt the treaty in a spirit of fairness, the commission did not fail to add that after the 1,000,000,000 gold marks had been paid it would be ready to discuss any further propositions which might be presented by the German Government."

With the view of partly substituting for gold and foreign securities goods, merchandise or the proceeds of a foreign loan.

Will Not Accept German Bonds.

"We cannot agree with the German Government that in the event of the twenty billion marks remaining unpaid on May 1 the balance may be settled by the delivery of the German bonds provided for in paragraph 12. The twenty billion gold marks in Article 235 is no way to be paid with the twenty billion gold marks representing the amount of the first issue of bonds referred to in paragraph 12 of annex 2. The twenty billion marks in bonds of annex 2 are simply an acknowledgment of debt to be deducted from the reparations to be made under Article 235 must be paid in cash, securities or the equivalent and be used partly, first, to defray the cost of the armaments of occupation and the re-equipping of Germany in foodstuffs and raw material, what balance is left over to be applied to reparations."

"The disposition of annex 2, paragraph 12, concerning the issue of new bonds, in no way modifies the absolute obligation taken by Germany to pay the 20,000,000,000 marks under Article 235. In any event, the total amount of 25,000,000,000 marks under Article 235 must be paid before May 1. The text is imperative, and non-fulfillment of this article, as in any other failure of Germany to fulfill her obligations, would entail penalties."

The above fact being stated, there is no way to be paid with the twenty billion gold marks in Article 235 must be paid before May 1. The text is imperative, and non-fulfillment of this article, as in any other failure of Germany to fulfill her obligations, would entail penalties."

"The *Freiheit* designates the eruption as the work of a 'rag-tag and bobtail proletariat' summoned into the streets by the Communist leaders, and declares: 'Bombs, outrages, the destruction of property, the looting of shops, the burning of houses and the robbing of savings banks have nothing to do with politics.'"

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